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June 16, 2003



**PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: New U.S. Patent Appln.

Our Ref: 038724.52435US

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a Continuation Application of pending PCT Application No. PCT/EP01/14801 filed on December 14, 2001 of:

Stefan TRUBE and Thomas AMMANN

entitled: SHIELDING GAS AND ARC-WELDING METHOD

Enclosed are:

1. Specification, including 39 claims (11 pages).
2. Priority is being claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119 and 37 C.F.R. §1.55 based on Priority Document 100 62563.0, filed in Germany on December 15, 2000.
3. Benefit is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. §120 of pending PCT Application No. PCT/EP01/14800 filed on December 14, 2001.
4. The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

Basic Fee					\$375/750	=	\$750.00
Total Claims	<u>39</u>	-	<u>20</u>	=	<u>19</u>	x	\$9/18 = \$342.00
Independent Claims	<u>3</u>	-	<u>3</u>	=	<u>0</u>	X	\$42/84 = \$
Multiple Dependent Claim Presented							\$140/280 = \$
Total Filing Fee							<u>\$1,092.00</u>

**The filing fee is being deferred.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donald D. Evenson  
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DDEjr